AMIL (Ramon Novarro), son of the Sheik of a wandering Arab tribe, is disowned for stealing on a Mohammedan feast day. He goes into El Kirouan, a Turkish city, and becomes a native guide, known in the East as a dragoman.

There he meets Mary Hilbert (Alice Terry), a teacher in an American school, run by her father, a missionary. Jamil falls in love with Mary, and, to be near her, enters the school as a student. He says he is going to become a Christian in order to marry her.

Meanwhile the Turks are planning a massacre of the Christians. (This happens before 1914 when the old Turkish Empire is still supreme, allowing, and sometimes fomenting massacres, but always denying any responsibility for them for fear of arousing the anger of the Christian nations.) In this case the Turks try to enlist the Arab tribesmen to do the actual killing. The Turkish Governor sends

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his soldiers away, so that the Turkish citizens and Arab tribesmen will have a free hand in the slaughter and the Government will not be blamed.

R. HILBERT hears of the impending tragedy and arranges for the Christian children at the Mission to be sent to Kantara for safety, with Jamil as their guide. The Governor, however, persuades Mary that Jamil is not to be trusted, and the children are sent on their way under the guidance of Iphraim (one of the older pupils of the school, who is a Turkish spy.)

Jamil, knowing that Iphraim is leading the children to death, pursues him, chokes a confession of duplicity from him, and takes the children back to the Mission. In order to protect them there, he sends word to his father, the Sheik, asking him to bring the tribesmen into El Kirouan to help him.

THE CAST

Jamil...RAMON NOVARRO
Mary Hilbert.ALICE TERRY
Dr. Hilbert.Gerald Robertshaw
The Governor....Maxudian
Hossein....Count de Limur
Abdullah....Adelqui Millar
Iphraim....Paul Vermoyal
Myrza......Justa Uribe
Selim...Giuseppe de Campo
Marmout....Paul Francesci
Oulad Nile....Alexandresco

THE TURKISH GOVERNOR, meanwhile, visits the Mission and tells Dr. Hilbert and Mary that they must leave at once if they are to be safe. He does not tell them that the Turkish fanatics are outside waiting to destroy all "unbelievers." Jamil forbids them to leave. The Governor is desperate because Jamil won't let them pass and shoots at the dragoman. Jamil falls wounded.

The crowds in the street, howling for Christian blood, attack the Mission. As they smash in the door, Jamil's tribesmen arrive to rescue the Christians.

Jamil returns with the Arabs to see his dying father, and, on his father's death, is accepted as the new Sheik of the tribe. But this glory seems empty without Mary, who is leaving with her father for America. She tells him she will return some day and Jamil is left with that hope of happiness.

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Story by Rdger Selwyn

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